



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**  
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

Southwest Region  
777 Sonoma Avenue, Room 219-A  
Santa Rosa, CA 95409

In Response refer to:  
F/SWR3:KC

April 9, 2007

Joel Gerwein  
California Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway  
Oakland, CA 94612

RE: Letter for Support for the Woodacre Creek at Carson Way Fish Passage Project

Dear Mr. Gerwein,

I am writing to express our support for the Woodacre Creek at Carson Way Project proposed by the Marin County Public Works Watershed Management Program. The Central California population of coho salmon is listed as endangered under both the U.S. Endangered Species Act (2005) and California's Endangered Species Act (2005). This fish passage project fulfills important restoration objectives in both the State and Federal Recovery Plans for coho salmon.

The restored crossing will provide a migratory corridor for coho and steelhead, allowing access to an additional 3,800 feet of good quality upstream spawning and rearing habitat.

Woodacre Creek supports runs of both coho salmon and steelhead trout, and is part of the San Geronimo core area of Lagunitas Creek and an important tributary to the restoration of coho salmon in the San Geronimo Creek sub-watershed, which has been identified as one of the most important waterways left for wild California coho salmon. Estimates of the annual coho population in the Lagunitas watershed was approximately 6,000 sixty years ago, yet today the annual population of coho is approximately 10-15% of their historic numbers. Through greatly reduced, these represent 15- 20% of all wild California coho surviving today. Woodacre Creek and its East and West Forks hosted 51 redds, 45% of all the redds observed in the tributaries to San Geronimo Creek (115 redds) and approximately 14% of the total redds in the Lagunitas system (371 redds).





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Restoration of fish passage at this site is part of a comprehensive effort on the part of the County to remove all the significant barriers to coho salmon on Woodacre Creek.

The National Marine Fisheries Service strongly supports the County of Marin's efforts to support the existing Coho in San Geronimo Valley and fully endorse this project as part of that effort.

If you have questions please feel free to contact me at (707) 575-6080 or by e-mail at [Kit.Crump@noaa.gov](mailto:Kit.Crump@noaa.gov). Thank you for your consideration of this application!

Sincerely

Donald "Kit" Crump  
NOAA Restoration Center





## DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

<http://www.dfg.ca.gov>POST OFFICE BOX 47  
YOUNTVILLE, CALIFORNIA 94599  
(707) 944-5500

May 5, 2008

Joel Gerwein  
California Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway  
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Mr. Gerwein:

This letter is to express support for the *Woodacre Creek at Carson Way Fish Passage Project* proposed by the Marin County Public Works Watershed Management Program. Woodacre Creek is a tributary to San Geronimo Creek in the Lagunitas Creek watershed, one of the most important and last remaining watersheds for wild California coho salmon.

The proposed project supports fish migration objectives in the Department of Fish and Game's Recovery Strategy for California coho salmon, and would open access to approximately 3,800 feet of good quality upstream spawning and rearing habitat for steelhead and coho salmon. Steelhead are Federally listed as "threatened", and coho salmon are listed as "endangered" under both the Federal and State endangered species acts.

Additionally, restoration of fish passage at this site is part of a comprehensive effort on the part of Marin County to remove all the significant barriers to coho salmon. A fish passage assessment conducted by Taylor and Associates, which identified and prioritized all publicly owned culverts, supports the decision to focus efforts on Woodacre Creek. Efforts to implement those recommendations began in 2005 with the day-lighting and removal of a complete barrier with an open-bottomed arch culvert, and continued into 2006 and 2007 with the installation of an open-bottomed arch at Park Street and the replacement of a large box culvert at the mouth of Woodacre Creek.

Only two high priority barriers remain in Woodacre Creek which includes this proposed project and a small, less critical crossing on the East Fork which is proposed to be replaced by Marin County in 2010. Woodacre Creek is an important watershed for endangered coho salmon, and we hope you will favorably consider this project for funding. If you require further information, please contact Ms. Gail Seymour of my staff at (707) 944-5583 or by email at [GSeymour@dfg.ca.gov](mailto:GSeymour@dfg.ca.gov). Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Charles Armor  
Regional Manager  
Bay Delta Region**RECEIVED**

MAY 07 2008

COASTAL CONSERVANCY  
OAKLAND, CALIF.

## CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE

**STATE CAPITOL**  
Room 4139  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814  
(916) 319-2006  
FAX (916) 319-2106

**DISTRICT OFFICE**  
3501 Civic Center Drive  
Suite 412  
San Rafael, CA 94903  
(415) 479-4920  
FAX (415) 479-2123



**Jared Huffman**  
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, 6<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT

**CHAIR**, Environmental Safety  
& Toxic Materials Committee

**COMMITTEES**  
Appropriations  
Utilities and Commerce  
Water Parks and Wildlife

May 2, 2008

Joel Gerwein  
California Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway  
Oakland, CA 94612

RE: Letter of Support for the Woodacre Creek Fish Passage Project

Dear Mr. Gerwein:

I am writing to express my support of the fish restoration passage project on Woodacre Creek proposed by the Marin County Public Works Watershed Management Program. The Central California population of coho salmon is listed as endangered under both the U.S. Endangered Species Act (2005) and California's Endangered Species Act (2005). This fish passage project fulfills important restoration objectives in both the State and Federal Recovery Plans for coho salmon.

The restored crossing will provide a migratory corridor for coho and steelhead, allowing access to an additional 3,800 feet of high quality upstream spawning and rearing habitat.

Woodacre Creek supports runs of both coho salmon and steelhead trout, and is an important tributary to the restoration of coho salmon in the greater Lagunitas Creek watershed, which has been identified as one of the most important waterways left for wild California coho salmon. Sixty years ago the estimated annual coho population in the Lagunitas watershed was approximately 6,000, yet today the annual population of coho is estimated to be 10-15% of their historic numbers. Though greatly reduced, these represent 15- 20% of all wild California coho surviving today. Woodacre Creek and its East and West Forks hosted 51 redds, 45% of all the redds observed in the tributaries to San Geronimo Creek (115 redds) and approximately 14% of the total redds in the Lagunitas system (371 redds).

Restoration of fish passage at this site is part of a comprehensive effort on the part of the County to remove all the significant barriers to coho salmon on Woodacre Creek. The project will benefit from a substantial match of county funds and staff time.

I urge the California Coastal Conservancy to support this project as part of the County of Marin's efforts to restore salmonid habitat through infrastructure restoration as well as long range planning.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jared Huffman", with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Jared Huffman**  
California State Assemblyman